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English I

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Adam’s cowardly personality results in a pompous exterior that he uses to compensate for his insecurities. After God catches Adam eating the forbidden fruit from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, Adam immediately puts the blame on Eve, saying “’she gave me the fruit from the tree’” (Genesis 3.12). By starting of the sentence with a personal pronoun, Adam tries to direct the attention to someone else, all to help from getting in trouble. The fact that Adam blames his wife Eve, shows just how far he is willing to go in order to not get in trouble. So by using the word “she”, immediately reveals to the reader that even though she is his wife, he cares more about himself and takes no responsibility. This sort of “blame game” did not stop from occurring just in *The Bible*. Even in the present, occurrences such as political figures not taking any of the responsibility for their actions take place. This has happened with President Nixon and many other notable people in history. So, to see that this characteristic in people occurs frequently even in today’s society, speaks loudly of humans inability to change and learn. Another one of these very traits that still occur in people today and took place in *The Bible* can be seen in the picture of the character, Adam. In the painting, Adam stands near the tree of knowledge of good and evil, looking to the evil serpent with one hand resting firmly on his hip. The painting does not show him standing legs crossed or with his stance simply with his arms at his side. The choice to make Adam leaning to one side with his hand on his hip depicts a certain pompousness. This hand neither graces his side nor gently lays there, it firmly digs into his skin creating wrinkles that represent an attitude of self promotion and confidence, whether or not this confidence truly exists. A lot of the time, this same characterization of men as pompous fools shows up in present day media such as films, literature, and television. The over confident male now holds the place of a stock character and because of that, a sort of stereotype has occurred that evidently derived all the way from *The Bible.*

God’s hunger for power in the world he has created, influences him to spend his time worrying that somebody will rule over him. This need of power appears in God’s reaction when his people begin to accumulate more knowledge. When he finds out that Adam and Eve have eaten the forbidden fruit he states, “’see the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat and live’” (Genesis 3.22). Adam “might” grow more powerful. Adam “might” keep disobeying God. God expresses this chance of loosing some of his power to Adam through his constant worrying that something that “might” happen which displays his need to obtain all the power and his resentment towards anyone trying to do the same. Almost everyone wants power in the book of *Genesis*, yet when someone as influential as God yearns for this same thing, the world and its people are pushed aside in the wake of God’s selfishness. When his creations try to build the tower of Babel that could reach the heavens, God’s hunger for power crept up as he destroyed their mission by confusing the language. All of this angst and desire in the end also gives God a constant fear of loosing what he holds most dear; this power. In the painting featuring God, this creator looks from the heavens on to his people. With close examination, wrinkles are prominently creeping from the ends of his eyes as if they represent a long time accumulation of his worry that he will loose all the power he made for himself. This worry ends up affecting the whole story of *Genesis* because it centers around God’s actions that derive from this worry. For example, after he sees that Adam and Eve disobey him and begin to obtain more knowledge, he quickly puts them in exile and then punishes them harshly. Therefore, this characteristic in the end, affects everyone in the story of *Genesis.*